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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Bowles et al. Art Unit: TBD
Serial No: TBD Examiner: TBD
Filed: 12/07/00 Docket No.: TI-24521
For: METHOD FOR UNPATTERNED RESIST ETCH BACK OF SHALLOW
TRENCH ISOLATION REFILL INSULATOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

December 7, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above referenced application as follows:

In the Specification:

U: Page 1, before line 1, insert --This application claims priority under 35 USC § 119(e)(1) of provisional application numbers 60/171,694 filed 12/22/99.